Parsinium Hitpo Forus

8340. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that "Parsinium Hitpo Forus" known as Congress Grass is causing skin diseases and Bronicial Asthama is spreading abundantly in Kanpur District of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to stop growth/production of this poisinous grass in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Sir, Parthenium hysterophorus, a weed, "locally known as Congress Grass" grows in many parts of the country including Kanpur. This weed has been reported to cause allergy/skin diseases.

(b) The State Governments have been advised to take up following steps to prevent the spread of Parthenium weed:—

1. Distribution of pamphlets for the control of the Parthenium weed advocating:—

(i) Physical removal of weeds soon after the on-set of monsoon;

(ii) Observance of proper precautions while undertaking physical removal of the weeds to reduce health hazards;

(iii) Foliar spray of 15 per cent common salt solution, Paraquat and 2, 4—D.

2. Mobilization of community efforts for controlling the weed in the no-man's lands.

3. Publicity through various media viz. Akashwani, Doordarshan and Press to create awareness among the public for undertaking prompt conrol measures.

Impact of Intensified Agriculture

8341. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZmi: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of intensified agriculture on environment; and

(b) the steps being taken to avert ecological disaster caused by intensive agriculture and to promote sustainable agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) To minimise the adverse impact of Intensified Agriculture on Environment, if any, the on-going Crop Production Programmes have been suitably modified giving more emphasis on adoption of Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management, increased use of organics including green manure, proper Soil and Water Management and conservation etc.

प्रमाणित बीजों के उत्पादन और उनकी बिक्री में लगे सरकारी क्षेत्र के संस्थान

8342. श्री राम जेठमलानी :
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकारी क्षेत्र के अनेकों संस्थान प्रमाणित बीजों के उत्पादन और उनके विक्रय कार्य में लगे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे संस्थान कौन-कौन से हैं जो मार्च, 1995 में कार्य कर रहे थे ;

(ग) वर्ष 1993–94 में इन संस्थानों ने किन-किन बीजों का कितनी-कितनी मात्रा